

The Iola Historical Society's Window

Quarterly Member and Activities Newsletter

Volume Five

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Fall 2012



Final rearations for Iola's first Veterans Day" salute were underway late on the afternoon of August 16, 1918, when this photo was taken with the hand crafted sevice flag temporrily displayed.

Iola's First "Veterans Day" Honored 54 "Boys" Serving In "The Great War"

As reported in the August 22, 1918, edition of the *Iola Herald*, a special service flag dedication on Iola's Main Street, conducted on Friday evening, August 16, had recognized 54 "soldiers and sailors from Iola village who have gone to serve their county in the great war for democracy." Intended to impart a "lesson of patriotism deeply impressed on the minds of all who were present" and might subsequently view it, the large flag boldly displayed 54 stars, one each honoring the 54 soldiers and sailors who

had enlisted or been drafted.

The report indicated that several hundred were in attendance at the evening event, "the clouds (having) cleared away about supper time," hosted at 7:30 in an area of the street roped off in front of the I.O.O.F. Hall. The flag was suspended from a cable stretched across the street from Hall's balcony to a utility pole that stood two doors south of the brick structure housing the Bank of Iola and a drug store (presently Jake's Barber Shop and Traci's Main Street Salon).

The evening commenced with a half hour concert performed by the Iola and Waupaca bands, following which the banner, with a white field bordered in red, was unfurled. Displayed in the field of white were 54 stars, 52 of them blue and the

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In The Window

This drum of the Iola Cornet Band always accompanied the troop for its performances.



This early 1900's Iola Cornet Band promotional photograph features 18 members.

SERVICE FLAG

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other two gold, the latter paying tribute to Isaac Huun and Lester Peterson, who had died in camp. Following an invocation pronounced by Rev. Anthony Jacobs of Waupaca, with the attendees sanding the bands played *The Star Spangled Banner*, as scouts Corin Peterson and Douglas Paulson unfurled the banner.

"The dedicatory address by Rev. Jacobs," the *Iola Herald* reported, "was a brief but stirring message of praise for the boys over there and of admonition to those at home to live up to the things for which the service flag stands: loyalty to our country; faithful service to our boys and their allies over there; sacrifices that democracy may win in the struggle

against autoctety (sic) and a victory be won that shall make war in the future impossible; refusal to profit financially from the needs of the allies and Uncle Sam; devotion of our time and our wealth to the service of our country."

Noting that the Rev. Jacobs' received "close attention and received great applause at the close," the report in the *Herald* concluded; "After special music by a mixed choir and a selection by the two bands, the service was over. It was certainly a memorable occasion and should leave a lesson of patriotism deeply impressed on the minds of all who were present."

The strs placed on the banner honored the services of; Walter Bergen, Elmer Buslett, George Danley, Silas Danley, Hugh L. Drown, Carl Eliason, Leon Elliott

(discharged), Frank Fox, Lysle Gullickson, Sidney Gullickson, Carvel Gurholt, Ralph Hanson, Walter Hatch, Alf Hoel, Lee Huffcutt, Emmanuel Huun, Isaac Huun (died in camp), Carl Johnson, Earl Johnson, Edmund Johnson, Harold Johnson, Martin Johnson, Orville Johnson, Einer Jorgenson, Clyde La Bar, Leroy Larson, Harry Lien, Harold McKay, Lloyd McKay, Ellsworth Ming, Fritz Moeller, Rolf Moeller, Lawrence Moffatt, Paul Morey, John Myers, Wilhelm Myhre, Christ Nace, E. G. Nehls, Martin Olson, Dempster Passmore, Milton Paulson, Lester Peterson (died in camp), Clarence Phelps, Ole Strai, Clarence Strand, Glen Warren, Edwin Weinmann, Henry Weinmann, Herbert Weinmann, Henry Wrolstad, Jonnie Wrolstad, and Alferd Zwicky.

2012 Supporting Members

The Iola Historical Society wishes to extend special recognition and thanks to the following individuals and organizations for the extra financial support provided to our activities through their status as 2012 Supporting Members: Mary Bennet, Scott & Karri Bestul, Bob & Bev Ellingson, DeRonda & Patricia Engebretson, Leonard & Irene Haroldson, Iola & Rural Fire Department, Lee & Ruth Johnson, Duane & Darlene Louison, Thomas Martin, Phyllis Morris, Joan & Richard Niemiec, Susan Shambeau, David & Ruth Strand, Roger Voie, William & Jacqueline Wilker.

Events Schedule

Saturday, October 6

10:00 am - 3:00 pm: 3rd Annual Taste of Norway

Monday, October 29

6:00 pm IHS Board Meeting

6:30 pm IHS General Meeting

Annual Election of Board & Officers

Monday, December 3

5:30 pm at The Millstone

Annual Christmas Potluck Dinner

Monday, January 28

6:00 pm IHS Board Meeting

6:30 pm IHS General Meeting

(All IHS activities held at 210 Depot Street unless indicated otherwise.)